

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-10 /094 W
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R 161351Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5644
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS BERLIN 07328

E.O.11652; N/A
TAGS; PGOV, GE
SUBJECT; MASS RALLY IN EAST BERLIN AGAINST FASCISM

1. ON 11 SEPTEMBER EAST BERLIN WAS THE SITE OF A MASS RALLY "FOR SOCIALISM AND PEACE AND AGAINST FASCISM AND WAR." THE RALLY TOOK PLACE IN BEBELPLATZ (SCENE OF THE NAZI BOOK BURNINGS) AND OVERFLOWED INTO THE ADJOINING UNTER DEN LINDEN. GDR MEDIA ESTIMATED THAT 120,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED, ALTHOUGH THE WEST PRESS REPORTED A SLIGHTLY SMALLER FIGURE. OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED SPEECHES FROM SEVERAL OF THE 26 NATIONAL DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED, A CEREMONY AT THE MEMORIAL
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TO THE VICTIMS OF FASCISM AND MILITARISM AND A PARADE BY GOOSE-STEPPING TROOPS OF THE VOLKSARMEE IN FRONT OF THE MEMORIAL.

2. SPEECHES AND ACCOMPANYING COVERAGE IN THE GDR MEDIA CONCENTRATED ON THE DANGEROUS GROWTH OF FASCISM IN THE WEST, THE THREAT POSED BY US DEVELOPMENT

OF THE NEUTRON BOMB AND NATO ARMAMENTS PROGRAMS, AND THE INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF THE SOVIET UNION IN COMBATTING THESE TRENDS. SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE QUESTION OF FASCISM IN CHILE. NONE OF THE PROPAGANDA BROKE NEW GROUND FOR THE GDR.

3. EMBOFF IN ATTENDANCE REPORTS THAT THE RALLY TOOK PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF GENERAL FESTIVITY DESPITE POOR WEATHER AND WITHOUT ANY EVIDENT SIGNS OF COERCED ATTENDANCE.

4. COMMENT: THIS RALLY APPEARS TO BE MERELY ONE IN A LONG SERIES OF GDR ACTIONS DESIGNED TO PORTRAY ITSELF AS A STAUNCH OPPONENT OF FASCISM (WITH THE FRG NATURALLY BEING THE HEIR TO THE THIRD REICH) AND TO DEMONSTRATE PUBLICLY THE EVERLASTING SOLIDARITY OF THE GDR WITH ALL REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES IN THE WORLD. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PEACE, WAR, FASCISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PGOV, GC
To: STATE
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